

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the Claims: Please amend claims 24, 25 and 28 as follows; claims 1-20, 26, 30-33 and 37-39 are canceled and the other claims (21-23, 27, 29, 34-36) are withdrawn. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the claims no longer pending herein. The following listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1-20 (Canceled)

21. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface.

22. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

23. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said antibody is A10A.

24. (Currently amended) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection in a patient comprising assaying mucosal secretions or urine of the patient with at least one antibody ~~according to claim 21~~ reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface and available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein said fungal infection is caused by *Candida* vaginitis or mucocutane candidiasis.

26. (Canceled) A method according to claim 24, wherein said diagnosis is performed on mucosal secretions or urine.

27. (Withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 21.
28. (Currently amended) A method for diagnosing fungal infections in a patient comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample from the patient using a monoclonal antibody ~~according to claim 21~~, reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface and available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*, wherein the presence of the $\beta(1-3)$ glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.
29. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein said antibody is A10A.
30. (Canceled) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 22.
31. (Canceled) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 23.
32. (Canceled) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 29.
33. (Canceled) A method according to claim 25, wherein said diagnosis is performed on mucosal secretions or urine.
34. (Withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22.

35. (Withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23.
36. (Withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29.
37. (Canceled) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.
38. (Canceled) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detecton of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.
39. (Canceled) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detecton of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.